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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SHASTA COUNTY MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO PRODUCING AND POSSESSING  
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY AND AGREES TO RECOMMEND 360 MONTH SENTENCE**

SACRAMENTO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that TRAVIS HEFFLEY, 29, of Shasta County, California, pleaded guilty this morning to one count of production by a custodial person of visual depictions of a minor engaged in sexually explicit conduct, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2251(b), and to one count of possession of visual depictions of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 2252(a)(4)(B). As part of his plea agreement, the defendant also agreed to forfeit computers, a camera, CDs and other matters used in the offenses. Judge William B. Shubb accepted his guilty pleas and scheduled the defendant to be sentenced on October 29, 2007 at 8:30 a.m.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by United States Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The case originated out of ICE in New York and was thoroughly investigated by the Redding RAC Office of ICE. Additional assistance was provided by the Shasta County Sheriff's Office, the Northern California Computer Crimes Task Force, and the Redding Police Department.

According to Assistant United States Attorney Laura L. Ferris, who is prosecuting the case, the defendant, as part of his plea agreement, admitted that he had produced an image of his daughter between January 2005 and December 2006 engaged in lascivious exhibition of the genitalia. He also indicated that he amassed his collection of more than 7,000 pictures and 355 videos of minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct by using a peer to peer software program called Limewire and purchasing a subscription to a website offering such pictures. The images included known pre-pubescent females engaged in activities such as oral sex, penetration by a foreign object, and bondage.

The maximum statutory penalty for a violation of producing a visual depiction of a minor is 30 years incarceration, a fine of \$250,000, a life term of supervised release, and a special assessment of \$100. The violation also carries a 15 year minimum mandatory. The maximum statutory penalty for a violation of possession of visual depictions of a minor is 10 years incarceration, a fine of \$250,000, a life term of supervised release, and a special assessment of \$100. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

This plea agreement is pursuant to Rule 11(c)(1)(c), meaning that the parties have agreed to jointly recommend to the court a sentence of incarceration of 360 months (30 years). The Court may accept or reject the plea agreement after it considers the presentence report to be produced in this case. If it is accepted, the defendant will be sentenced to 360 months incarceration. If it is rejected, the defendant will have the opportunity to withdraw his plea. The defendant agreed to recommend 360 months incarceration, in part, to reach a global resolution of the federal case and related state criminal charges that have been filed by the Shasta County District Attorney's Office related to the molestation of the daughter. For more information about the pending state charges, contact Deputy D.A. Stephanie Bridgett at 530-245-6300.

"Today's guilty plea marks another step forward in our efforts to protect our children from those who would prey on them for sexual purposes. I am particularly pleased that we worked hand-in-hand with the Shasta County District Attorney's Office to ensure that Mr. Heffley will be in a place where he can't harm anymore children for decades to come," said United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott.

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